

I urge the FCC to reject the petition of the National Association of Broadcasters, number 04-160. I also urge members of Congress to oppose HR4026. The FCC and Congress should not prohibit the satellite radio providers from sending local traffic and weather information to their subscribers. We subscribers contract and pay for the services, and derive benefit from them. I like being able to remain listening to XM Radio and still get traffic info. Legislation or regulation of what can be provided by the marketplace does not work, and it prevents consumers from buying the services they want which are not provided in that form by local broadcasters. Commission members and members of Congress should consider whether they personally have radio services that they would like to have available, but which are not provided by local radio (e.g.: country music stations which play Hank Williams, or full-time classical music stations, or old-time radio drama stations). If so, why should they be prevented from paying for such services if they wish to? Also, why should these services be available on the internet, where there is obviously some demand for them, but not over a paid subscription service? The marketplace should decide what is wanted and whether a provider wishes to provide it. Arbitrary decisions of bureaucrats almost never are as responsive, flexible, or helpful as operations of the marketplace.